

## **10. MOTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 11**

### **Motion 1**

**Councillor Stephen King, seconded by Councillor Joan King to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

This Council notes the 50th Anniversary of Oxhey Jets Football Club, which has been an integral part of the South Oxhey community for all that time.

This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to John Elliott B.E.M. who, along with his parents, formed the club in 1972 and who has selflessly put in thousands and thousands of hours making the club the success it is today. The letter shall thank him and personally and all the other club volunteers both past and present for their dedication and true community spirit.

The letter shall make it clear that this Council fully acknowledges all that club means to the people South Oxhey and this Council's appreciation of its role it plays in the wider community."

### **Motion 2**

**Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst, seconded by Councillor Sarah Nelmes to move under Notice duly given the updated motion below, updated on 18 October 2022, as follows:**

#### **Housing Targets**

Council notes that:

Liz Truss MP has said, 'I want to abolish the top-down, Whitehall-inspired Stalinist housing targets;' - Daily Telegraph, 17 July." and is committed to abolishing the 300,000 new homes target set by the previous Conservative Government and Secretary of State.

Conservative-run Hertsmere and Dacorum Councils have both delayed their Local Plans while they push back on the government housing targets that would be excessive Green Belt development and have boasted about delaying their own Local Plans.

Liberal Democrat run Three Rivers Council has regularly and repeatedly objected to the imposed central government housing target which rendered its existing Local Plan out of date, despite the fact it had been meeting the previous housing targets. Council therefore welcomes the following:

The commitment to abolish the top-down, Whitehall-inspired Stalinist housing targets. The Liberal Democrat run Council for pushing back on the government target over the last two years and seeking a lesser figure on every possible occasion, including in letters and appeals to previous ministers, whilst delaying its local plan in order to object to 12,700 new homes target, most of which would be in the Green Belt.

Council agrees to:

Ask the government and new Secretary of State to inform the Planning Inspectorate that the figures imposed using out of date 2014 data no longer apply and to seek the support of the Members of Parliament covering Three Rivers in so doing.

Thank Council officers for their continued hard work on Local Plan and its policies that seek to secure the right and proper level of development suitable for Three Rivers, whilst securing the right type of residential development suitable for the 21st century

Continue to work for a suitable housing figure that reflects the need for some new build to support communities and growth but one that reflects the land and environmental constraints of Three Rivers but not the previous imposed arbitrary figure of 12,700 that was based on 2014 data.

Once clear guidance from the Secretary of State on housing figures that is due to be announced next month, draw up a suitable housing target plan evidenced with a locally calculated housing needs using up to date statistics to ensure the right Local Plan for Three Rivers is presented as an alternative to the Government should arbitrary targets still be in place.

Continue to inform residents of its actions by whatever means possible, including with any further public consultations.

**Council to note that the motion below (motion 3) has been referred to the Infrastructure, Housing and Economic Development Committee meeting on 15 November 2022 under Rule 11(5) of the Council Constitution**

**Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst, seconded by Councillor Paul Rainbow**

### **Turn off the lights and save Electricity**

Three Rivers Council is determined to do what it can to tackle the Climate Emergency whilst also dealing with the current fuel crises.

Therefore Council urges business and employers to re-double effort to ensure excessive use of lighting and air condition particularly addresses the need to:

1. Turn off lighting, including neon display lights, when shops and offices are unoccupied
2. Not use air conditioning unless essential for business purposes
3. Install water saving/recirculation devices

**Council to note that the motion below (motion 4) has been referred to the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 7 November 2022 under Rule 11(5) of the Council Constitution**

**Councillor Abbas Merali, seconded by Councillor Ciaran Reed**

This Council is concerned that Community Infrastructure Levy money is being spent in an ad hoc reactive manner with no overall strategy and prioritisation framework. This Council resolves that a strategy will be developed to identify what the key infrastructure requirements and priorities are for Three Rivers to ensure this money is being best used to benefit all of our residents in accordance with the published criteria for CIL spending.

**Motion 5 – withdrawn on 18 October 2022 by the proposer and seconder**

**Council to note that the motion below (motion 6) has been referred to the Local Plan sub-committee meeting on 9 November 2022 under Rule 11(5) of the Council Constitution**

**Councillor Ciaran Reed, seconded by Councillor Philip Hearn**

This Council is deeply concerned about the affordability of homes in Three Rivers District and especially the impact it has on young people.

Councillors are deeply disappointed that the affordability ratio of new houses (average house price: average income) in Three Rivers is at 14:1, higher than both Watford and Dacorum.

This Council recognises the need to take urgent action to ensure that the affordability ratio is decreased whilst at the same time respecting the character and environment of our area, especially its Green Belt.

This Council acknowledges the impact this has on younger residents, with many of those who grew up in Three Rivers being forced out of the District.

This Council understands that census data may not be the best reflection of how the demography of Three Rivers works in certain age categories given how many university students are registered as living at their parents' homes address for the purpose of that study, making using it to see the exodus of younger people from Three Rivers not a viable tool.

This Council believes that part of the problem for younger people trying to find places to live in Three Rivers is a lack of mobility in the local housing market, especially with older people not finding homes to downsize into within Three Rivers.

This Council is troubled by how the current situation is robbing our communities of their young people and our young people of their communities.

This Council therefore resolves to:

1. Create stricter and more heavily enforced mechanisms on the number of affordable homes built in developments.
2. Explore options to encourage the building of new bungalows and one/two bed terraced houses for both first time buyers and for older residents to downsize into.
3. Investigate whether local first-time buyers can be prioritised for affordable housing.
4. Look into options for ensuring that a good housing mix that contains one bed dwellings that are not only supplied through flats.
5. Consider how to protect the one bed houses within our District from being extended into large and more expensive properties.

#### **Motion 7**

**Councillor Chris Mitchell, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cox to move under Notice duly given as follows:**

As part of the Three Rivers climate emergency response and declaring a climate emergency, this Council is committed to a just energy transition and to ambitious investments in the green infrastructure and industries that will create jobs and rapidly decarbonise our economy.

The construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure and expanded reliance on fossil fuels exposes our communities to untenable risks to public health and safety at the local and global levels, whereas the economic opportunities presented by a clean energy transition far outweigh the opportunities presented by an economy supported by expanding fossil fuel use and extraction. It is recognised that fracking is unlikely to take place in Three Rivers, however to dissuade any organisation taking steps to take initiatives towards investigating the potential, we propose that we vote for the motion set out below.

“It is recognised that fracking is unlikely to take place in Three Rivers, however to dissuade any organisation taking steps to take initiatives towards investigating the potential, we are declaring our opposition to the government decision to lift the ban.”